

**CORRECTED COPY AS OF 3/17/03**

**A RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM TO VETO  
SENATE BILL 195 OF 2003 AND HOUSE BILL 4206 OF 2003.**

- Whereas: The Detroit Water and Sewerage System has continually been managed by the Board of Water Commissioners since they were constitute in 1853; and
- Whereas: The control, sale, transfer or disposal of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) assets is clearly a matter for the voters of Detroit; and
- Whereas: Local control and Home Rule principles are codified in the State Constitution and the Home Rule Act of 1909 allowing local governments the power and authority to determine the form and manner in which local government operates and utilizes it assets of which the Detroit Water and Sewerage System is Detroit's greatest asset; and
- Whereas: The imposition of State control and governance scheme over the operations of DWSD is an unlawful taking of City assets and will erode the confidence of citizens in their local government officials as well as the citizens' ability to maintain control of the government elected to serve them; and
- Whereas: The Michigan State House of Representatives has proposed House Bill 4206 and the Michigan Senate has passed Senate Bill 195 that would end the current Detroit Water Board; and
- Whereas: House Bill 4206 would change the composition of the Board to reflect a new operational control over the system by non-owner communities, and Senate Bill 195 would take jurisdiction for the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department from the City of Detroit; and
- Whereas: The Detroit City Charter created the Water and Sewerage Department, which is now administered by a seven (7) member Board of Water Commissioners; and
- Whereas: The current Board and appointment process reflects the ownership position of the City of Detroit by providing that at least four (4) members of the Board must be residents of the City appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor as prescribed by the Detroit City Charter; Now Therefore Be It
- Resolved: That the Detroit City Council urges the Michigan State House not adopt House Bill 4206 the companion bill to Senate Bill 195 that would alter Detroit control and abolish of the Detroit Water Board and replaces it with a new Regional Board; and Be It Further
- Resolved: That in the event that Michigan House and Senate Bills are adopted the Detroit City Council urges the Governor Jennifer Granholm to veto such bills as an unwarranted intrusion on the rights of Citizens of Detroit, and Be It Finally
- Resolved: That the City Clerk is directed to send copies of this adopted resolution to the Governor Jennifer Granholm and all of the Michigan House and Senate.

Placed on the Table March 19, 2003 by Council President Maryann Mahaffey and  
Council Member Sharon McPhail